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District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TUCSON MAN SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR TORTURE OF ILLEGAL ALIEN

TUCSON, Ariz. - Hector Soria, 23, of Tucson, Ariz., was sentenced last Friday by U.S. District Judge Frank R. Zapata to 25 years in federal prison for Soria's role in the torture of an illegal alien in 2003. On February 8, 2007, Hector Soria pleaded guilty to all five counts of the 2003 indictment without a plea agreement. His 25 year sentence will run concurrent to Soria's 21-year state sentence which he received for the kidnapping and aggravated assault related to the same incident. Although the federal and state sentences will run concurrently, Soria will not receive credit for the four years that he has been custody on his federal sentence; he was sentenced in the Arizona case first and was in state custody while the federal case was pending.

On September 24, 2003, Soria was arrested in Three Points, Ariz. on kidnapping and aggravated assault charges and was ordered detained by the Pima County Superior Court in Tucson, Ariz. Soria was then charged federally with harboring illegal aliens in October 2003 via criminal complaint. Soria was federally indicted on November 5, 2003, charging Soria and also Barry Van Brocklin, Miguel Cazares, Sr., Angel Navarro-Leon and Jesusita Guerrero with Conspiracy to Harbor Illegal Aliens for Private Financial Gain, Harboring Illegal Aliens with Serious Bodily Injury, Harboring Illegal Aliens for Private Financial Gain and additionally charging Soria and Van Brocklin with Conspiracy to Hostage Take and Hostage Taking. On February 3, 2005, Brocklin was sentenced to 13.5 years in federal prison for his role in the Hostage Taking and is currently in Arizona state custody serving his original sentence. Once completed, he will serve the remainder of his time in federal custody.

On September 22, 2003, Soria and Van Brocklin went into a trailer where Roselin Rodriguez-Bravo, an illegal alien, was sleeping and took him into the trailer of Miguel Cazares, Jr., aka Ramon Navarro-Leon, and Suzi Guerrero. Three Points, Ariz where they detained Rodriguez-Bravo against his will. Van Brocklin was armed with a shovel which he held in a threatening manner against Rodriguez-Bravo and blocked the only exit of the trailer so that he could not escape while Soria repeatedly beat Rodriguez-Bravo with his belt buckle, cut him with a knife, stabbed him with a screw driver and knocked out his front teeth. Soria then demanded the phone numbers of the family of the alien so that he could call the family and demand \$1,500 payment for the release of Rodriguez-Bravo and delivery to Phoenix. Soria would have received part of the \$1,500 payment.

In pronouncing sentence on January 4, 2008, Judge Zapata found that Soria's sentence could be enhanced because a weapon was used during the offense, bodily injury was suffered by Rodriguez-Bravo, Roselin Rodriguez-Bravo was a vulnerable victim, and Soria was a leader and/or

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organizer during the commission of the Hostage Taking.

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Pima County Sheriff's Department. The prosecution was handled by Serra M. Tsethlikai, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-03-2197-TUC-FRZ
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